

Amendments to the Specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Often, zoom and crop functions are performed using image processing systems such as cameras, personal computers, kiosks, personal digital assistants, network centric systems, other devices. These devices commonly have a display for presenting a digital image and a user interface to permit a user to designate a selection area within an image for use in forming a zoom and crop processed image. The digital image data contained the selection area is processed using a zoom and crop algorithm to form a zoom and crop processed image and an evaluation image representing the zoom and crop processed image is formed for presentation on the display. Users often rely upon the appearance of the evaluation image as presented in the display in order to determine whether the zoom and crop processed image represented by the evaluation image has ~~an preferred appearance~~ a preferred appearance. Where the evaluation image has an acceptable appearance, users will often elect to store the zoom and cropped processed image, or use a printer or like device to render the zoom and cropped processed image on a film fabric or paper.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Controller 32 cooperates with a user input system 34 to allow ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10 to interact with a user. User input system 34 can comprise any form of transducer or other device capable of receiving an input from a user and converting this input into a form that can be used by controller 32 in operating imaging system 10. For example, user input system 34 can comprise a touch screen input, a touch pad input, a 4-way switch, a 6-way switch, an 8-way switch, a stylus system, a trackball system, a joystick system, a voice recognition system, a gesture recognition system or other such systems. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 and 2 user input system 34 includes a shutter trigger button 60 that sends a trigger signal to controller 32 indicating a desire to capture an image.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Signal processor 26 and controller 32 also cooperate to generate other images such as text, graphics, icons and other information for presentation on display 30 that can allow interactive communication between controller 32 and a user of imaging system 10, with display 30 providing information to the user of imaging system 10 and the user of imaging system 10 using user input system 34 to interactively provide information to imaging system 10. Imaging system 10 can also have other displays such as a segmented LCD or LED display (not shown) which can also permit signal processor 26 and/or controller 32 to provide ~~information to user 10~~ information to the user. This capability is used for a variety of purposes such as establishing modes of operation, entering control settings, user preferences, and providing warnings and instructions to a user of imaging system 10. Other systems such as known systems and actuators for generating audio signals, vibrations, haptic feedback and other forms of signals can also be incorporated into imaging system 10 for use in providing information, feedback and warnings to the user of imaging system 10.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Digital images can also be received by imaging system 10 in ways other than image capture. For example digital images can be conveyed to imaging system 10 when such images are recorded on a removable memory that is inserted into memory interface 50. Alternatively digital images can be received by way of communication module 54. For example, where communication module 54 is adapted to communicate by way of a cellular telephone network, communication module 54 can be associated with a cellular telephone number or other identifying number that for example another user of the cellular telephone network such as the user of a telephone equipped with a digital camera can use to establish a communication link with ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10 and transmit images which can be received by communication module 54. Accordingly, there are a variety of ways in which ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10 can receive images and therefore it is not essential that ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10 have an image capture system so long as other means such as those described above are available for importing images into ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

An image processing mode is then selected (step 104). In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 and 2, this can be done using mode selection button 66. This can be done in any of a variety of ways. For example, the imaging system 10 can be operable in a plurality of modes such as capture, review, editing and sharing modes. Imaging system 10 can cycle between active modes by repeated depression of mode selection button 67 with the active mode being indicated on display 30 and a selection of an active mode being made using select it button 68. In an alternative embodiment, mode selection button 66 can be depressed to indicate to controller 32 that the user of imaging system 10 intends to select a mode of operation for ~~image processor~~ imaging system 10. Controller 32 can then cause a list of modes to be displayed on display 30. A user of ~~image processor~~ imaging system 10 can navigate between modes using, for example, by using joystick 66 to move an indicator between the displayed modes and can select a desired mode using the select-it button 66. Other selection methods can also be used.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Imaging system 10 can then receive a choice election from user controls 34 (step 114). An election can be made indicating that the zoom and crop algorithm is to be applied to form an image based upon the imaging information in area of the digital image in designated selection area in which case the zoom and crop algorithm is applied to the selection area so that an image is formed that contains imaging information that is within the selection area and that is sized consistently the size of the original digital image or otherwise sized to conform with a preferred image size (step 116). This election can be made for example by moving joystick 66 so that a cursor appears over the accept button 150 on editing screen 120 and depressing the “select-it” button. In this embodiment, when the apply button is selected the digital image itself is modified by the zoom and crop algorithm. Image information from areas that are outside of the selection area is extracted from the digital image and the remaining areas are enlarged. The extracted image information can be discarded saving memory space in ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10. Alternatively the extracted image information can be preserved by storing the extracted image information as metadata in association with the zoom and crop processed digital image.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 5 shows the designation of ~~such an new~~ such a new user area. As is shown in Fig. 5, point 134 is adjusted so that selection area 132 encompasses a smaller portion of digital image. The process of determining which of the output formats 126 are preferred for this selection area is then performed (step 110) and an indication is made as to which formats are preferred (step 112). As can be seen in Fig. 5 where this is done, the loss of image information occasioned by the downsizing of the selection area 132 from the size shown in Fig. 4 to the size shown in Fig. 5 occasions a loss of image resolution within selection area 132 of Fig. 5 such that the use of the image information within the selection area 132 is no longer preferred for use with the 5" x 7" output format. Accordingly, the status indicator 128 associated with the 5" x 7" output format 126 transitions from the preferred state to the non-preferred state.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, many imaging devices are used by consumers and business people in conjunction with a set of image rendering devices such as a home computer, a home printer, and a preferred on line photo rendering service such as Ofoto, and imaging devices and systems to which digital images on ~~imaging device~~ imaging system 10 may be shared. Accordingly, in one embodiment of the invention, controller 32 can determine image rendering capabilities of each such likely image rendering destination and can adjust the determining step 110 and the indicating step 112 so that determinations can be made on a device by device or recipient by recipient basis with multiple status indicator and output formats displayed in status display area 124, each indexed by recipient as shown in table I.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

It will be appreciated that using such tables it is quickly possible to ascertain whether a particular output source will render a zoom and crop processed image with a preferred appearance. In an alternative embodiment, an additional step in the method of Fig. 3 can further comprise the steps of inquiring whether the zoom and crop processed image will be sent to one or more other people or places, receiving an indication of which other places the zoom and crop processed image will be sent, and obtaining information about the image rendering capabilities associated with such people and places. The obtaining step can be performed manually with this information being entered by way of user controls 34 or it can be automatic with ~~communications~~ communication module 54 communicating with equipment associated with such persons in advance of determining step 110 in order to obtain this information directly.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the above described embodiments, the arrangement of the selection area has been described as arranging a set of points within a digital image from which some shaped selection area can be determined. However, other approaches are possible. For example, in one useful embodiment, when imaging device 10 of Figs. 1 and 2 is in the image processing mode, a user of imaging system 10 can designate a selection area by manipulation of wide angle zoom lens 62 and telephoto zoom lens button 64. When ~~controller 34~~ controller 32 detects manipulation of these buttons when in the zoom and crop editing mode, ~~controller 34~~ controller 32 can define a selection area within the digital image that is, for example centered on the image with the size of the selection area reduced as the telephoto zoom lens button 64 is depressed and enlarged as the wide angle zoom lens button 62 is depressed.